Docket No. DEP-5170



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Michael Slivka et al.

Serial No. : 10/676,868

Art Unit:

Filed

: September 30, 2003

Examiner:

For

: METHOD FOR TREATMENT OF DEFECTS IN THE

INTERVERTIBEBRAL DISC

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Nov. 4,2003

(Date of Deposit)

Theodore J. Shatynski
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

NOV- 4, 2003

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this

information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

 \boxtimes In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under $\S1.53(d)$), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required. In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with [] the first or second After Final Submission, therefore: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP-5170/TJS the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p). In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

		Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e)
		(attached); or
		Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP-
		5170/TJS the fee of $$180.00$ as set forth in
,		§1.17(p).
	In a	ccordance with §1.97(d), this Information
Disclosure	e Stat	ement is being filed after the mailing date of
either a E	Final	Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance
under §1.3	311 bu	it before the payment of the Issue Fee.
Applicant	(s) he	ereby petition(s) for consideration of this
Informatio	on Dis	sclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in
Accordance	e`with	§1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of
\$180.00 as	s set	forth in §1.17(p).
	•	
	_	es of each of the references listed on the
attached I	Form E	PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.
П	Copie	es of references listed on the attached Form PTO-
— 1449 are e		sed herewith EXCEPT THAT:
		In view of the voluminous nature of references
•		[list as appropriate], and the likelihood that
		these references are available to the Examiner,
		copies are not enclosed herewith.
		If any of the foregoing publications are not
		available to the Examiner, Applicant will
		endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's
		request.
	Copie	es of only foreign patent documents and non-
patent lit	ceratu	are are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98
(a)(2).	(The U	J.S. patents and each U.S. patent application
publicatio	on lis	sted on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not

enclosed because this U.S. patent application was filed after June 30, 2003 or this international application has entered the national stage under 35 USC §371 after June 30, 2003 (see USPTO waiver of requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i).

$oxed{\boxtimes}$ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.
The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:
Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.
Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/DEP-5170/TJS. This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore J. Shatynski

Reg. No. 36,676

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DATED: November 4, 2003

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)
Sheet 1 of 1

_	b a collection of information diffiess it displays a valid Givib control number.						
	Application Number	10/676,868					
	Filing Date	September 30, 2003					
	First Named Inventor	Michael Slivka et al.					
i	Group Art Unit						
	Examiner Name						
	Attorney Docket Number	DEP-5170					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.1		d Code² ′ known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		4,956,178		Badylak et al.	09/11/1990	
		5,281,422		Badylak et al.	01/25/1994	
		5,922,028		Plouhar et al.	07/13/1999	
		5,964,807		Gan et al.	10/12/1999	
		6,126,682		Sharkey et al.	10/03/2000	
		6,140,452		Felt et al.	10/31/2000	
		6,206,921		Guagliano et al.	03/27/2001	
		6,245,107	B1	Ferree, B.	06/12/2001	
		6,371,990	B1	Fеггее, B.	04/16/2002	
		6,425,919	B1	Lambrectht, G.	07/30/2002	
		6,592,625	B2	Cauthen, J.	07/15/2003	,
		2002/0007218	A1	Cauthen, J.	01/17/2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant	
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Office ³	Number ⁴ Kir	ndCode ⁵	Applicant of Cited Document	mm-dd-yyyy passages or relevant figures appear	passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		wo	99/04720	A1	Reprogenesis Inc.	02/04/1999		
		wo	99/61084	A1	Advanced Bio Surfaces, Inc.	12/02/1999		
		wo	00/62832	A1	Endospine LTD.	10/26/2000		
		wo	01/10316	A1	Fеrree, B.	02/15/2001		
		wo	01/12107	A1	Medenesis; Inc.	02/22/2001		
		wo	02/45765	A2	Osteotech, Inc.	06/13/2002		
		wo	03/051239	A1	Centerpulse Biologics Inc.	06/26/2003		

Examiner		Date	,				
Signature	•	Considered					

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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¹ Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.